

BIG DEAL IN REALTY.

W. C. CALDER BUYS THE CORNER WHERE HIS STORE NOW IS.

J. W. Scriber will Build there a Two-Story Brick Block—Frame Building to be Moved to the East at Once—Bank on the First Floor of the Block, Club Rooms up Stairs.

In its results and influence on the business conditions of Sumpter, the real estate transaction which was consummated a few days since, the transfer of the property at the northeast corner of Granite and Center streets, from Mrs. H. Duckworth to W. C. Calder, was one of, if not the, most important which has yet been made in the town. The lot has a 50-foot frontage on Granite street and runs back 100 feet on Center. The store building now occupied by Mr. Calder is on the corner half of the lot.

The property sold for \$3,100, and over \$6,000 worth of improvements will be made thereon, work to begin immediately. The storeroom proper, which is 25 by 60 feet, will be moved onto the east half of the lot. It is expected that the contract for this portion of the work will be let today. An addition forty feet in length will be built on to the rear of the store. The warehouse, 25 by 40 feet, will remain where it now stands, on the rear of the west half of the lot. All of this will be occupied by Mr. Calder's general merchandise business. A handsome plate-glass front will be put in the store. These improvements alone will cost more than \$1,000.

On the corner, where the store now stands, a two-story brick building, 25 by 60 feet, will be erected by J. W. Scriber, of La Grande. There arose some difficulty about securing a lease of the property across the street, on which he originally intended to build, so some private arrangement between himself and Mr. Calder was reached regarding the purchase of this property.

The brick block will be a handsome one, costing not less than \$5,000, the plans for which THE MINER has not yet seen. Work will begin as soon as the frame building is moved from the site. The ground floor of this brick block will be occupied by Mr. Scriber as a banking house, to be called the First Bank of Sumpter, as was stated in this paper last week.

The second story will be handsomely fitted up for social club rooms, which institution will soon be organized here. Every one recognizes the need of such a place here, where residents can spend their leisure time and visitors can be properly entertained.

All of this will be accomplished just as speedily as men and money and enterprise can do it.

Good Citizens for Sumpter.

F. H. Neil returned a few days since from Portland, and the first thing he did on his arrival here was to buy a lot on North street and let the contract to Jack Hazelwood for the erection of a cottage. This cottage will be occupied by Mr. Neil's son and his family, consisting of his wife and two children, while the elder Mr. Neil and wife will live over the store now being built on the corner of Granite and Main streets. Instead of putting in a stock of general merchandise, as was originally intended, they will deal in clothing, gents' furnishing goods, boots and shoes. The business will be conducted under the name of the Neil Mercantile Company.

Basche's Brick Block.

Claude C. Basche has let the contract for the stone foundation for his brick block, 25 by 100 feet, two stories high, to Contractor Hottel. The stone masons arrived in Sumpter Tuesday to go to work

on this job, but the ground was not ready for them. The building will be erected on the south half of his lot, where the barber shop and telephone office now stand. These buildings will be moved off at once, work beginning, perhaps, today. The frame building now occupied by the Basche Hardware company will remain where it is and be used for a storeroom and warehouse. The telephone office will be moved to this building temporarily, but will occupy elegant quarters on the second floor of the brick block when it is finished.

Produce Hauled From 70 to 100 Miles.

Every few days some farmer from the famous Grand Ronde valley drives into town with a wagon load of vegetables and fruits, which he always readily disposes of here for a good price. They say Sumpter is the best market for farm produce in eastern Oregon. But how the farmer can haul this stuff from 70 to 100 miles at a profit, if his time and that of his team is worth anything, is a question which THE MINER can not satisfactorily answer. One thing is certain, however, that, having direct rail connection, there is something wrong with the rates when a farmer will haul his products that distance in a wagon, rather than ship by rail. If the rates are prohibitory, the railroad companies lose on the deal, as well as the producer. Fortunately this transportation problem can be solved "by hand," however, and so the monopoly doesn't monopolize.

Engagement Extraordinary.

Hyde Gowan, "The Wizard of the Banjo," acknowledged as America's greatest exponent of the instrument, assisted by leading local talent, will appear at Healy's hall, Saturday evening, September 23. Admission fifty cents; children twenty-five cents.

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